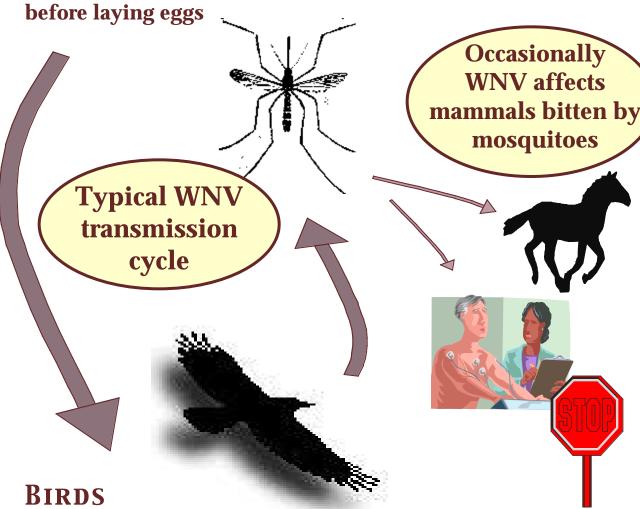
WEST NILE VIRUS TRANSMISSION CYCLE

MOSQUITOES

Some species of mosquitoes carry & amplify the virus. They transmit the virus when they bite to get a protein blood meal

MAMMALS

Most species are not susceptible to illness, even if infected with West Nile virus



Infected mosquitoes bite birds & infect them. Some infected birds transmit the virus to other mosquitoes when bitten again. Birds of some species get ill; others do not show disease symptoms, although infected. Infected migrating birds carry the virus to new places.

MAMMALS ARE
DEAD END
HOSTS
The level of viremia
in mammals is
generally too low to
transmit the infection

back to mosquitoes